

UMS Welcomes PM 11 Austerity Measures

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TUESDAY, 31 DECEMBER – Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) welcomes the implementation of 11 austerity measures to reduce spending in the public sector starting 1 January 2014 as announced by the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak yesterday.

Quoting UMS Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Datuk Dr. Mohd. Harun Abdullah during a talk on ‘Income Generation in Public Varsities’ recently, he said the move would save funds allocated by the government to the university.

Ideas to generate income by each Department, School, Centre, Institute and Unit (JSPIU) in UMS would help to reduce relying on allocation given in efforts to help the government to reduce annual expenses.

The Vice-Chancellor also reminded all Heads of Treasury (PTJ) UMS to undertake activities agreed based on the concept of ‘prudent spending’ to

avoid wastage.

“I hope every PTJ would help the university by being mindful in their spending, be prudent in making decisions that involved the financial resources of the university and the government,” he said in his speech when opening the Budget Consultation Workshop recently.

The 11 austerity measures announced by the Prime Minister were:

1. A 10 percent reduction in entertainment allowances of ministers and deputy ministers, as well as five to 10 percent of senior government officials in the Public Sector Principal Post C (JUSA C) and above.
2. Five percent reduction in electric utility costs in all ministries, departments, agencies and government premises.
3. RM50 to RM100 or 30 percent reduction in toll payment for senior government officers (JUSA C and above).
4. Freeze in new applications for office renovation in ministries, departments, agencies and government premises.
5. Tighten the appointment of consultants for government physical projects including feasibility study, while the proposed new appointment must be submitted to the National Development Planning Committee chaired by the Secretary-General for approval.
6. Reduction in the use of event management companies and door gifts for conference or government events involving government administrators and public service staff.
7. Eligibility amendment to domestic and international airline tickets. It includes the use of economy class for